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ALBANIA. 24 July—Government Changes. The official news agency announced various ministerial changes and the abolition of the praesidium of the Council of Ministers. The changes had been decided on by a joint meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the Council of Ministers, and the praesidium of the National Assembly. They were stated to be designed to streamline the administration and to further economic and cultural development.

The main changes were: the merging of various Ministries and the setting-up of separate Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Defence; the appointment of Mr Mehmet Shehu as Deputy Premier while retaining the Ministry of the Interior; the retirement for health reasons of Dr Nichani, president of the praesidium of the National Assembly, and his replacement by Hadji Lechi; and the appointment of Behar Chtula, formerly Minister of Public Health, as Foreign Minister. (The portfolio for Foreign Affairs had previously been held by the Prime Minister, Gen. Hoxha). As a result of the changes the number of Cabinet seats was reduced from nineteen to ten.

4 Aug.—U.S.S.R. It was announced that the Government had agreed with the Soviet Government to raise their respective legations to the status of embassies.

ARGENTINA. 5 Aug.—U.S.S.R. A one-year trade agreement with Russia was signed in Buenos Aires under which Russia undertook to provide, *inter alia*, 500,000 tons of crude oil, 300,000 tons of coal, petroleum by-products to the value of \$500,000, and, subject to deferred payment, machinery to the value of \$30 m. In return Argentina was to send mainly wool and linseed oil, also hides, lamb, mutton, cheese, and some other products. It was the first agreement to be signed between Argentina and the Soviet Union.

AUSTRALIA. 3 Aug.—Census. The results of the census of 31 March were announced. They showed the population to be 8,795,778 of whom 4,454,420 were males.

AUSTRIA. 29 July—Soviet Note to Austria *re* peace treaty (see U.S.S.R.).

30 July—U.S.S.R. A Note was received from Russia announcing that from 1 August the Soviet Government would take over all the costs of maintaining the Soviet occupying Power in Austria.

31 July—The Chancellor, Herr Raab, speaking at Dornbirn, thanked the Russian Government for its latest concessions and said Austria was resolved to follow 'a purely Austrian policy'.

Herr Waldbrunner, Minister of Transport, issued a statement welcoming the new Russian move but recalling other 'oppressive burdens' of the occupation which, he said, ought to be liquidated independently of the peace treaty.

4 Aug.—Peace Treaty. The Government published the text of a memorandum handed to the Russian Government on 30 June (to which the Russian Note of 29 July was a reply). It welcomed Russian

proposals for diplomatic negotiations on the treaty and called for a trade agreement between the two countries.

BENELUX CONFERENCE. 24 July—The Benelux Ministers agreed at a conference at The Hague to take, by common consent, temporary counter-measures if industrial production in a member state declined because of competition from another member, and if an industry suffered unduly from competition because of imports from another member state. A system of arbitration was provided for in case the three Governments failed to agree within one month of a case being submitted. The Ministers also signed a protocol concerning an inter-parliamentary advisory council.

BOLIVIA. 2 Aug.—Land Reform. President Estensoro signed a decree facilitating the acquisition of land by Indian peasants on favourable terms.

BULGARIA. 1 Aug.—Greece. A Greek-Bulgarian border commission began discussions at Svilegrad with a view to determining the two countries' frontiers and restoring destroyed boundary markings.

CEYLON. 23 July—Budget. Mr Jayawardene, Finance Minister, announced his budget in which, as an effort to reduce the drain on external assets, expenditure was reduced and taxation increased to bring in an additional Rs.68 m. The Minister also announced a new loan of Rs.80 m. to bridge the deficit in the capital development programme which was left unimpaired. Of the new taxation, Rs.24 m. was to be obtained by introducing a uniform graduated scale of income tax. Income tax on resident companies was to be raised from 30 to 34 per cent and on non-resident companies from 36 to 40 per cent. Higher import duties were imposed on a wide range of imports, including motor cars of over 18 h.p. Mr Jayawardene gave an outline of aid received under the Colombo Plan in the past two years, the total of which he estimated at Rs. 25 m.

CHINA. 29 July—Sailors from an unidentified warship boarded the British steamer, *Admiral Hardy*, after intercepting and firing on her off the Chinese port of Foochow.

1 Aug.—Speaking at the twenty-sixth anniversary celebrations of the People's Liberation Army, Gen. Chu Teh said that the Chinese People's Republic, 'while firmly opposing aggression, will never invade another people' and that the role of the army was 'to protect the motherland and our people undertaking peaceful reconstruction'.

3 Aug.—Civil Service Investigation. The Government announced its decision to appoint 'people's supervisory correspondents' to inquire secretly into 'all delinquencies, violation of the law, and trespasses on the people's rights' by civil servants and to collect the opinions of the people on Government policy and decrees. The 'correspondents' were to be appointed in the ranks of all Government organizations

China (*continued*)

throughout the country and were to work under the committee of people's control set up by the Administration Council.

CUBA. 25 July—British-owned Railway. The Cabinet approved in principle a decree law authorizing the formation of a commission to negotiate the purchase on behalf of the State, by voluntary agreement or by expropriation if necessary, of the assets in Cuba of the British-owned United Railways of Havana and Regla Warehouses Ltd. After purchase the assets would be transferred to a new company to be called Occidental Railways of Cuba. The proposed decree law authorized the issue of \$20 m. in Government bonds for the acquisition and rehabilitation of the railways, and the capital of the new company was fixed at \$30 m.

26 July—Revolt in Santiago. Following armed revolts in Santiago de Cuba and Bayamo in which over fifty people were reported killed, the Cabinet suspended constitutional rights for ninety days. Statements issued by President Batista and the Government attributed the disorders to followers of ex-President Prio. The latter, in exile at Miami, ridiculed the charge.

28 July—Arrests in connection with revolutionary activity continued. The death roll in the uprising was announced as fifty-seven.

United Havana Railways. The official gazette published the decree law authorizing the acquisition of the United Havana Railways by purchase or expropriation.

30 July—Government Changes. Señor Guas, president of the Liberal Party, Señor Gutierrez, president of the National Economy Board, and Señor Elias Olivella were appointed Ministers respectively of Communication, the Treasury, and Health. The outgoing Ministers received other official posts.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 25 July—Eight persons escaped across the frontier into Bavaria in a home-made tank.

1 Aug.—In a speech at the opening of a dam near Kladno, President Zapotocky admitted that there had been 'mistakes in the construction of Socialism' and that there was a serious shortage of foodstuffs, especially of meat and sugar. He put the blame on the low production of collective farms and said the situation would be investigated but collectivization would go through, whatever the cost.

EGYPT. 23 July—At a military parade which started four days of celebrations to mark the anniversary of the revolution, Gen. Nagib said that the first year of the revolution had been the greatest in Egyptian history. Referring to the dispute with Britain, he said that Egypt was not waiting for foreign help but for the world to show anger and condemn the British troops for aggression. Egyptians would no longer concede their national rights.

Later Gen. Nagib went into the country to distribute title deeds to the first peasants to become landowners under the land reform law.

Israeli-Egyptian agreement *re* shelter of vessels in adverse weather (see *Israel*).

24 July—At another parade in Cairo to mark the anniversary celebrations Major Salem, Minister of National Guidance, said that the C.-in-C. of the Army had agreed to open military depots so that people could 'arm themselves in organized groups'.

United States. It was revealed that Gen. Nagib had received a message of congratulations from President Eisenhower who had spoken of the opportunity open to Egypt to strengthen peace and stability in the Middle East and thereby to contribute to the welfare of mankind.

25 July—Sudan. Gen. Nagib declared in Cairo that Egyptian safety depended on the evacuation of occupation troops from the Sudan as well as from the Suez Canal. He added that evacuation of British troops from the Sudan was more important than from the Suez Canal because the Sudanese did not possess the means for driving out occupiers that Egypt had.

28 July—Major Salem, Minister of National Guidance, told a liberation rally meeting that though the regime loathed the existence of martial law and censorship the measures must be maintained for the country's protection. He said that three elements—the Communists, those who had lost land under agrarian reform, and some formerly active politicians—were continuing to work against the country's interests.

Col. Abdel Nasser, Minister of the Interior, told the rally that there were 123 persons in detention, against 6,000 under the former regime. One in twenty of those detained were agents for foreign countries.

29 July—It was made known that contact at 'a much lower level' than the original negotiating delegations had been re-established between the British and Egyptians concerning a resumption of talks on the Suez Canal question.

Gen. Nagib declared that he was ready to meet Sir Winston Churchill anywhere to discuss the Suez Canal dispute on condition that 'the basis of discussions should accord with Egyptian national aims'.

30 July—The British and Egyptian delegates to the Anglo-Egyptian talks met at a dinner party given by the Pakistan Chargé d'Affaires. It was their first meeting since the talks were broken off on 6 May.

Major Saleh Salem appealed to the British people in a broadcast message 'to give up the losing battle of the Canal Zone and evacuate at once'. He urged them to seek Egyptian friendship by granting Egypt her freedom and said that if war broke out it would be impossible for Britain to safeguard the Canal base with 22 m. unfriendly Egyptians nearby supported by another 50 m. Muslims.

31 July—A joint Anglo-Egyptian communiqué was issued which stated that informal contacts concerning the Suez Canal problem had been made by Egyptian and U.K. representatives and that 'the possibilities of agreement will be further explored by this means before discussions are resumed'.

2 Aug.—Col. Nasser, deputy Prime Minister, speaking in Ismailia, said that the informal talks begun with the British would not change

Egypt (continued)

Egypt's demands for full rights. Though Egypt wished sincerely to find a settlement she would not think of accepting humiliation as the price of peace.

Mme Nahas. An anti-corruption court found Mme Nahas, the wife of the former Wafd Minister, guilty of exerting influence over a former Minister to secure construction of a road to her country home. She was ordered to pay £E1,043 towards the cost of the road.

3 Aug.—Fuad Serag ed-Din. The former Wafd Minister of the Interior was released from gaol.

FORMOSA. 26 July—Action against British vessel (see Hong Kong).

30 July—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek sent a personal message to anti-Communist Chinese prisoners-of-war in Korea telling them that they could come to Formosa, and urging them to co-operate with the U.N. Command.

FRANCE. 23 July—Constitutional Amendment Bill. The National Assembly voted by 468 to 127 to amend the Constitution in several respects. The main changes provided for were: (1) that a Prime Minister-designate should be elected by only a simple, instead of, as before, an absolute, majority of the National Assembly and that, instead of the double investiture system, he should in future seek the confidence of the Assembly after having announced his Cabinet; (2) that an absolute majority should be required to overthrow a Prime Minister on an issue of confidence; (3) that Bills (except money and certain other Bills) might receive their first reading in the Council of the Republic (instead of always in the Assembly) and that, in the case of disagreement between the two Houses, after a hundred days the latest form of the Bill to be adopted by the Assembly should become law; (4) that the Government should have the right to decree a closure of the Assembly after its being in session for seven months; (5) that the Government should have the right to remain in office, after dissolution of the Assembly, without being forced, as before, to include Ministers of State chosen from parliamentary groups not represented in the Government; (6) that vice-presidents and other officials of the Assembly should no longer be chosen by proportional representation; (7) that parliamentary immunity should be limited to the period of a parliamentary session.

The Bill was not to go to the Upper House till after the summer recess.

25 July—Cambodian Note to France (see Indo-China).

2 Aug.—Indo-China. The Emperor Bao Dai of Viet-Nam arrived in France for discussions with the Government.

4 Aug.—Economic Situation. M. Laniel, Prime Minister, said in a national broadcast that the immediate financial situation had improved: the exchequer had been replenished without a rise in prices, and foreign commitments had been met without a fall in the value of the franc. But it was essential to balance the budget and to create conditions conducive to a recovery in business. Government spending would have to

be cut and economies were being prepared. Other necessary tasks were the removal of obstacles to productivity, the ending of illegal price-fixing and of excessive protection against competition, and the reduction of excessive middlemen's profits. He appealed for a common effort by all Frenchmen.

5 Aug.—Soviet Note to western Powers on a five-Power conference (see U.S.S.R.).

High Command. The Council of Ministers appointed Gen. Ely as president of the Chiefs of Staff committee and Inspector-General of the Armed Forces in succession to Marshal Juin.

N.A.T.O. It was announced that subject to the Supreme Commander's approval Gen. Carpentier would succeed Marshal Juin as C.-in-C. Allied Land Forces, central Europe.

Finance. M. Faure, Finance Minister, told the Council of Ministers that expenditure would have to be cut by at least 220,000 m. francs in 1954.

GERMANY. 23 July—Berlin. Food Distribution. Dr Conant, the U.S. High Commissioner, delivered a Note to the Soviet High Commissioner in which he rejected the latter's protest of 21 July regarding the proposed U.S. distribution of food to East Germans. He said that Mr Semionov had been completely misinformed about the true situation in west Berlin and western Germany and that the offer of food 'was made in good faith and still stands'. He hoped Soviet officials would place no obstacles in the way of its distribution.

Professor Reuter, chief burgomaster in west Berlin, submitted to the three western commandants details of the food distribution scheme which was due to come into operation on 27 July. It was estimated to cost about 5 m. marks a month and was expected to benefit about 700,000 people in east Berlin and 300,000 in the Soviet zone. The recipients would be registered with local authorities in west Berlin and would receive a coupon worth 5 marks entitling them to specific quantities of food. Pending the arrival of American supplies, the food would be taken from the strategic six months' stock. Later it was announced that the responsibility for the distribution of the food would rest with the Federal authorities and not with the allies.

It was discovered that 5,000 forged coupons had been distributed in the Kreuzberg district in addition to the 2,400 genuine coupons handed out by the municipal authorities on 20 July under a local scheme.

24 July—East Germany. Ministerial Change. It was announced that Herr Zaisser, Minister for State Security, had been dismissed and that the Ministry of State Security had been incorporated as a State secretariat in the Ministry of the Interior. Herr Wollweber had been appointed as its head.

Air Violations. The U.S. deputy chief of staff replied to the Soviet protest of 18 July against alleged violation of four-Power flight rules and the dropping of leaflets by U.S. bombers. He said that two protests against low altitude flying had been registered at the Berlin air safety centre and that the Soviet representatives had been provided with evi-

Germany (continued)

dence completely refuting the charges. He added that the allegations were entirely lacking in substance and contrary to information on record at the Berlin centre.

25 July—West Germany. President Eisenhower's Letter. The text of a message from President Eisenhower to Dr Adenauer was published in Bonn. In it the President again assured the Chancellor of American support for free elections and German unification and declared that in his view they were not incompatible with German membership of the E.D.C. but that the latter would increase the chances of reunification. He also enumerated five points which he thought were of the greatest significance in regard to the recent risings in east Berlin and east Germany. These were: (1) that the demonstrations were entirely spontaneous, whatever Moscow might say; (2) that they were not merely a momentary act of despair but pointed to a fundamental determination to be free; (3) that the men who took part were not 'bourgeois reactionaries' or 'capitalist warmongers' but workers; (4) that the risings and the behaviour of Communist leaders during and since the disorders pointed to the complete political bankruptcy of the S.E.D. (Socialist Unity Party); and (5), what was to him most important of all, the east German workers had called for free elections. Gen. Eisenhower ended the letter by affirming that the growing contrast between east and west Germany would in the long run create conditions 'which must make possible the liquidation of the present Communist dictatorship and Soviet occupation', and that the E.D.C. would be 'the simplest, most straightforward, and clearest demonstration of strength for peace'.

East Germany. Tax Reductions. The east German Minister for Mining and Metallurgy told the press that tax reductions had been decreed for artisans, farmers, and owners of private businesses, while former tax increases had been cancelled. The extension of wage increases to east Berlin workers was also announced.

26 July—Berlin. Food Distribution. East Berliners reported in west Berlin that workers in large concerns in the Soviet sector had been asked, when handed their weekly wages, for an undertaking not to avail themselves of food distribution facilities in west Berlin.

27 July—East Germany. Socialist Unity Party Changes. A statement issued by the central committee of the Socialist Unity Party on its meeting from 24–26 July announced the expulsion from the party of Max Fechner, former Minister of Justice, and from the central committee of Wilhelm Zaisser, former Minister of State Security, and Rudolf Herrnstadt, former editor of the party organ, *Neues Deutschland*. Herrn Schirdewan and Ziller were co-opted to the committee. Herr Stoph, Minister of the Interior, became a member of the Politburo, while Anton Ackermann, Frau Elli Schmidt, and Herr Jendretzki were dropped from the Central Committee. The meeting approved a document entitled 'The New Course and the Tasks of the Party'.

Berlin. Food Distribution. Thousands from east Berlin and the eastern zone queued for gift food parcels at distribution centres in west Berlin under the scheme sponsored by the Federal Government and

backed by U.S. resources. No interference was evident at the sector boundary.

West Germany. Dutch Protest re Rhine Shipping. The Federal German Government received a protest from the Netherlands Government concerning German discrimination against foreign shipping on the Rhine. The Note pointed out that the foreign currency position in Germany had improved to such an extent as to allow the greatest possible liberalization, and it declared that existing German restrictions made a really European traffic policy impossible.

28 July—Dr Naumann. The Federal Supreme Court ruled that Dr Naumann (the former Nazi State Secretary who was arrested by the British authorities on 14 January and handed over to the federal authorities on 1 April) and Dr Bornemann (the former Nazi Youth leader who surrendered to the Federal authorities in April after a warrant had been issued for his arrest) should be released on the ground that neither a strong suspicion of treasonable activity nor the possibility of concealment or escape could justify continued detention.

29 July—East Germany. In a speech to the People's Chamber, Herr Grotewohl, east German Prime Minister, repeated his previous proposal for an 'all-German conference' on reunification with 'plenipotentiaries of the Federal Government', and suggested that the new electoral law, the lifting of restrictions on the movement of persons, and the increase of interzonal trade should be discussed.

He criticized the decisions of the Washington conference of western Foreign Ministers, declaring that the communiqué showed that the western Powers aimed at strengthening the Adenauer regime, prolonging the division of Germany, and harnessing western Germany to the American *bloc* through the E.D.C., and he said that in limiting the proposed four-Power conference to discussion of all-German elections the western Powers had in mind an election under western control.

In a lengthy exposition of the 'new course' of policy, Herr Grotewohl said the Government's final objective remained the creation of a Socialist order of society, but he said: 'It is, however, wrong and dangerous to speed up the establishment of Socialism by administrative and coercive measures.' The new course should be carried out over 'many many years', and this meant that the development of private 'capitalistic' concerns could be allowed, without, however, tolerating large concentrations of capital.

West Germany. Nazi Victims. The Bundestag passed the law on the compensation of Nazi victims which provided that, until 31 December 1954, the *Länder* should bear 90 per cent of the cost of compensation instead of, as formerly, the whole cost.

Berlin. Food Distribution. It was announced that 250,000 parcels had already been distributed in west Berlin to east Germans.

East Germany. Neues Deutschland published a speech by Herr Ulbricht, secretary-general of the Socialist Unity Party, in which he explained that Zaisser and Herrnstadt had been expelled from the Central Committee of the party for Social Democratic leanings and attempts to split the party leadership. He also said that Ackermann, the

Germany (continued)

Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, had lent them his moral support.

31 July—Berlin. Food Distribution. It was announced that in view of the huge response to the gift food parcel scheme the Federal Government had agreed with the west Berlin authorities to extend its scope which originally provided for one million parcels.

West German-Turkish cereals agreement (*see Turkey*).

West Germany. Dr Naumann. Dr Naumann told a press conference in Düsseldorf that he had received 'mountains of mail' from unknown admirers asking him to enter politics. He spoke sarcastically of the evidence against him which, he said, was mainly a misinterpretation and declared that nothing was further from his thoughts than the rebirth of national socialism.

1 Aug.—East Germany. Herr Pieck, east German president, returned to Berlin after three months' convalescence in Russia.

Berlin Food Distribution. The east German authorities suspended the sale of railway tickets to Berlin except in the case of season ticket holders, schoolchildren, and Berlin residents. In announcing the ban, the Minister of Transport said it was to counter 'the designs of American and west German warmongers to stir up unrest' against east German workers and farmers.

2 Aug.—The east German Ministry of the Interior announced that persons carrying more than one identity card would be liable to prosecution. (People had been able to draw food parcels for friends and relatives by producing their identity cards.)

Berlin. East German police occupied the station at Staaken, a suburb of Berlin, and seized all food parcels they found. Potsdam station was also occupied by police and a strict check of all passengers carried out.

Dr Conant, U.S. High Commissioner, arrived in Berlin to see the working of the food distribution scheme. He told Professor Reuter that 5,000 tons of food would be shipped to Germany every week for the following nine weeks.

3 Aug.—Berlin. Food Distribution. Reports reaching Berlin from east Germany told of strict enforcement of the ban on railway travel to Berlin at least in the larger towns, but said that some tickets were sold in smaller places and villages. Clashes between would-be travellers and police occurred in some towns, and there were angry demonstrations when food parcels were forcibly removed from people returning from Berlin. The north-west German radio reported widespread strikes in east Germany as retaliation for the railway ban, and the Communist-controlled press reported 'Fascist provocations' at Babelsberg, Neustrelitz, Oranienburg, and Leipzig. In Berlin, in spite of strong police reinforcements at the sector boundary, east Berliners were allowed to cross into west Berlin without interference. In east Berlin about 200 to 300 persons—alleged by the eastern press to be west German unemployed and old-age pensioners—were given food parcels said to have been surrendered voluntarily by philanthropic east Germans.

People's Police Desertions. It was announced that 475 members of

the east German People's Police had sought asylum in west Berlin during July. It was the highest monthly figure and brought the total for the year to 1,079.

4 Aug.—Berlin. Food Distribution. Communist demonstrators, up to 3,000 strong, massed at two distribution centres in Wedding and Kreuzberg and shouted provocative slogans. At one stage their behaviour was so threatening that the emergency police were called up and forced them back over the sector boundary: seventy-two arrests were made. The east Berlin Magistrat transferred its counter scheme (distribution of parcels to west Berlin unemployed) to the Platz der Akademie and a queue of people were seen waiting there.

Dr Conant, in a letter to Mr Semionov, said he would recommend to his Government any proposals for the release of blocked funds, held in deposit in the U.S.A. on behalf of the east German State Bank, for the purchase in the U.S.A. of food for eastern Germany. (These funds, amounting to \$1.4 m. had been frozen under the regulations prohibiting the use of dollars for trade with North Korea or Communist China).

A west German official said it was doubtful if the target of 3 m. parcels under the first scheme could be reached owing to obstructionary measures adopted by the east German authorities. The total distributed to date was 1,300,000. The Government also decided to offer to sell to the east German Government, through the inter-zonal trade offices, 25 m. marks worth of food against payment in west marks.

Dr Dibelius. The east German press accused Dr Dibelius, head of the Evangelical Church, of 'commanding his people to violate the laws'. In a recent sermon in Berlin he had criticized both the Russian Government for failing to release German prisoners and the east German Government for imprisoning pastors.

Berlin. Food Distribution. In spite of the ban on railway travel more than 60,000 food parcels were given to people who had come to Berlin by bicycle, bus, or even by train.

5 Aug.—Russian Note to western Powers *re* five-Power conference (see U.S.S.R.).

Five-Power Conference. Dr Adenauer, commenting on the Soviet Note in a broadcast interview, said it was unthinkable that China should take part in discussions on Germany. He considered the Soviet proposal for a discussion on Germany without a fixed agenda as very dangerous.

Berlin. Food Distribution. About 163,000 food parcels were distributed, and travellers arriving in Berlin from the eastern zone reported that railway restrictions and police checks had been relaxed. They said that in some places—Magdeburg was one of them—the ban had been lifted as a direct result of demonstrations. It was announced that the total of parcels distributed to date was 1,608,000. Communist propaganda against the scheme continued unabated. West Berlin police ascertained that sixty-two of the seventy-two persons arrested the previous day had east Berlin identity cards, thus giving the lie to Communist propaganda that the demonstrations were a 'spontaneous protest' by west Berlin unemployed.

Germany (*continued*)

The east German official news agency quoted 'authoritative sources' as saying in reply to Dr Conant's suggestion that east German blocked funds in the United States might be used to buy food for east Germany that it might be done, but the east German Government demanded the unconditional release of the funds which had been illegally confiscated.

GREAT BRITAIN. 26 July—Loan to Pakistan. The Government announced a loan to Pakistan of £10 m. for the purchase of capital goods in the United Kingdom, in order to assist Pakistan's food production. The loan was repayable over ten years and bore interest at 4 per cent. During the first three years payment was to be of interest only.

27 July—Central African Federation. The Commons adopted by 288 votes to 242 a Government motion for an Address to the Queen praying that an Order in Council be made in the terms of the draft submitted to Parliament.

28 July—The House of Lords agreed to the above motion for the Address without a division.

Korea. Total British casualties (*see Korea*).

29 July—Foreign Affairs. In a debate on foreign affairs in the Lords, Lord Salisbury, Lord President of the Council and acting Foreign Minister, said that one of the first tasks at the recent Washington conference of Foreign Ministers had been to examine the situation in Russia and the satellite countries and to seek to interpret the meaning of the new slant in Russian policy which seemed to be showing itself since the death of Stalin. The three Ministers had agreed that nothing had happened which involved any stiffening in policy towards Russia, although it was obviously far too soon to consider a slackening in the tempo of western rearmament, but there was no intention to embark on a pin-pricking policy against Russia and the satellites. There was increasing evidence that the spirit of freedom which the Russian Government in the past had been at such pains to suppress was in fact alive and, Lord Salisbury believed, indestructible. It was generally thought that the recent events in east Germany had brought the possibility of German reunification nearer, and the Ministers decided that the best way they could further reunification was to continue to build up their own material strength and to press for free German elections and a free all-German Government.

Lord Salisbury referred to Opposition criticism of the decision to propose to Russia a four-Power Foreign Ministers' conference on Germany and Austria and said it was not, he imagined, what anyone would have ideally wished but it represented the greatest common measure of agreement on a fair balance of view, and he reminded his critics that in an alliance allies could not be ignored and there had to be give and take. He added that the Prime Minister's proposal of 11 May was not ruled out and that the Prime Minister had told him that he thought 'we had got the best results possible' and that he regarded the

proposed meeting as a valuable opportunity for talks with Russia and in no way closing the door to his own proposal.

Lord Salisbury said the purpose of the proposed conference was discussion of the future of Germany in an objective and friendly spirit to try to find the means of achieving German reunification without threatening the security or arousing the enmity of her neighbours. After emphasizing that German membership of E.D.C. ought to provide a real safeguard against future German aggression, Lord Salisbury referred to Sir Winston Churchill's suggestion that 'the master thought which animated Locarno might well play its part between Germany and Russia' and to Dr Adenauer's idea, propounded in a letter to the three Foreign Ministers in Washington, that the E.D.C. might be the basis of a security system which would meet the needs of all European members, including Russia. He said the Government were giving careful thought to the problem. In his view some reassurance to Germany's neighbours might prove an essential pre-condition of any agreement for German reunification. The talks would provide an admirable opportunity for an exchange of views on the problem and would give a pretty clear indication of the chances of success in a wider field.

Turning to Korea, Lord Salisbury said that if an armistice was broken by an action of the South Korean President, the British Government were uncommitted. He emphasized the importance of maintaining the connection between the United Nations with the Korean question and said the political conference should be in some considerable way associated with the United Nations. He thought that besides the North and South Koreans, the United States, Communist China, and Russia the participants in the conference should also include Britain, Australia, and India, and he said that any settlement must aim at strengthening peace and security in the Far East generally.

Defence. Mr Crookshank, Lord Privy Seal, announced during a Commons defence debate that the Government had decided to continue the call-up under the National Service Act of 1948 which was due to lapse on 1 January 1954. They also proposed to introduce a Bill to extend the liability of reservists under the Act so as to place those whose obligation ended after five and a half years' service under the same liability to recall in an emergency as Z and G reservists.

30 July—Korea. Replying to a question in the House about Mr Dulles's statement that the U.S. delegates would walk out of the political conference on Korea after ninety days if it proved a sham (*see United States*), Mr Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that the British Government were in no way committed to this statement and would expect to be consulted before any such action was taken. Repeating what Lord Salisbury, acting Foreign Secretary, had earlier told the Lords, he said that Lord Salisbury had urged the U.S. Government to make every effort to induce President Rhee to abide loyally by U.N. policy at the U.N. Assembly and the political conference. If he took any action which broke the armistice the Government's first step would be consultation with fellow members of the United Nations. In the lamen-

Great Britain (continued)

table event of a renewal of aggression by the Communists, the Government considered that resistance should be within the framework of the United Nations. The Government's general aim for Korea was a permanent solution which secured Korean freedom and unification and the safety of her neighbours within the conception of the charter. But if this were not immediately practicable there might have to be an interim period of pacification and rehabilitation.

U.K.—Libyan treaty of friendship and alliance (*see Libya*).

Nigeria. The conference on Nigerian constitutional reform opened in London, attended by Nigerian representatives and with Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, in the chair.

2 Aug.—Central Africa. The appointment was announced of Lord Llewellyn as Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Gambia. It was announced that the Colonial Secretary had accepted certain proposals for changes in the Constitution of Gambia which had been recommended by the Governor as the result of a unanimous report from a representative committee. Amending instruments would be submitted to the Queen in Council in due course. The main changes agreed to were: (1) that the Legislative Council should be enlarged from seven official and eight unofficial members to five official and sixteen unofficial members of whom fourteen should be elected; (2) that there should be an unofficial majority on the Executive Council and that two of the unofficial members should be given responsibility for Government activities and the title of Minister; (3) that at the request of a Minister an advisory committee might be appointed to assist him.

5 Aug.—A White Paper (Cmd. 8918) was published on the Government's plans for spending 'Counterpart Funds' derived from U.S. economic aid.

Soviet Note *re* five-Power conference (*see U.S.S.R.*).

GREECE. 24 July—Press Offences. The Parliamentary Recess Committee approved the Government Bill amending the provisions of the Penal Code on press offences. During the debate the Minister in Charge of the Press had stated that the Bill would thwart Communist plans to weaken the country.

26 July—Death of Gen. Plastiras. Gen. Plastiras, leader of the E.P.E.K. Party and a former Prime Minister, died aged seventy.

1 Aug.—Greek-Bulgarian border discussions (*see Bulgaria*).

3 Aug.—Communism. A military court in Athens sentenced eleven members of the banned Communist Party to death for high treason and espionage. All except one were sentenced *in absentia* owing to their being abroad.

HONG KONG. 26 July—The British steamer, *Inchkilda*, was fired on by gun boats and ordered to proceed to Ochkeu, an island in the Straits of Formosa in Chinese Nationalist hands. The ship was later released after the intervention of a British aircraft carrier.

HUNGARY. 25 July—Amnesty. Radio Budapest announced a decree granting an amnesty for prisoners serving up to two-year sentences, with some exceptions, and for people sentenced to 'controlled labour' expectant mothers, mothers with children under ten, women over fifty, and men over sixty. In addition, prisoners serving sentences over two years were to have their sentences reduced by one-third, and sentences on members of the armed forces for non-political crimes were to be reduced by one-half. The decree also abolished internment as a punishment and ordered the dissolution of internment camps by 31 October. Deportation as a punitive measure was to cease at the same date. With the exception of some unnamed places deported people would be free to return to their native towns and villages. Those condemned for war crimes, crimes against State security, and anti-democratic crimes were not included in the amnesty.

The Government also issued a decree abolishing income tax arrears for members of agricultural co-operatives.

26 July—An editorial in *Szabad Nep* demanded a 'much higher level' of party democracy, 'collective leadership', and greater respect for the opinions of individual members.

1 Aug.—Yugoslavia. Frontier Incident. Budapest Radio announced that a Note of protest had been sent to Yugoslavia concerning the shooting of a Hungarian frontier guard on 30 July.

3 Aug.—Trade. The official Communist newspaper, *Szabad Nep*, admitted that the attempt to make the country self-supporting had failed, and it underlined the necessity of not only expanding trade with the other people's democracies but also of developing trade with other countries.

ICELAND. 1 Aug.—U.S.S.R. An agreement was concluded with Russia for the trading of fish and fishery products for Russian oil, flour, cement, and metal goods.

INDIA. 25 July et seq.—Indian-Pakistan talks (*see Pakistan*).

INDO-CHINA. 25 July—Cambodian Reply to France. The Cambodian Government published the text of its reply to the French Note of 3 July inviting the three Associated States to enter into negotiations for the completion of their independence and sovereignty. The reply stated that as a condition of negotiation the complete independence of Cambodia should be recognized at once and that in return Cambodia would accept a status in the French Union equal to that of India in the British Commonwealth. Cambodia would further undertake to negotiate an economic treaty favourable to French interests, to conclude a monetary agreement under which the Cambodian currency would continue to be linked with the French franc, and to sign a military aid agreement which would provide, *inter alia*, for the occupation by French troops, while the war continued, of certain districts assigned to them by the Cambodian High Command. The Note claimed for Cambodia the right to manage her own internal and foreign trade, to have full com-

Indo-China (*continued*)

mand of her armed forces, and to control the judiciary and police systems and internal and foreign policy.

27 July—Four small Franco-Viet-Nam outposts in the district of Sontay, about thirty-seven miles north-west of Hanoi, were evacuated in accordance with the policy of abandoning useless outposts and augmenting mobile reserves.

28 July—‘**Operation Camargue**’. The French Command launched an operation in central Viet-Nam designed to drive out Viet-Minh elements in the area between Hué and Quang Tri and to prevent them from harassing communications. A force equipped with tanks and artillery was landed from the sea, and two parachute battalions were dropped from Dakota aircraft and linked up with ground forces moving north from Hué.

Cambodia. Mr Penn Nouth, the Cambodian Prime Minister, reshuffled his Cabinet and took on the Ministries of Finance, Sports, Youth, and Education.

High Commissioner. M. Maurice Dejean, the new French High Commissioner, arrived in Saigon.

31 July—The Emperor Bao Dai, in a message to the Viet-Nam people, said that in his forthcoming talks in Paris he would set forth Viet-Nam hopes for ‘the most complete independence’ as well as for a free association with the French union.

‘**Operation Camargue**’. A French spokesman said that 600 Viet-Minh soldiers had been killed or wounded and 900 captured as a result of ‘Operation Camargue’.

INDONESIA. 30 July—New Government. It was announced that Dr Ali Sastroamijoyo had formed a new Government in which the Foreign Minister was Dr Sunario.

IRELAND. 27 July—A general trade agreement with Italy was concluded in Dublin.

ISRAEL. 23 July—Egypt. At a meeting on the frontier, Israeli and Egyptian representatives signed an agreement providing that vessels of either country might take refuge in the territorial waters of the other during adverse weather.

24 July—U.S. refusal of loan (*see United States*).

29 July—United States. Jerusalem. The Foreign Ministry issued a reply to a criticism by Mr Dulles to the press in Washington that in transferring the Foreign Ministry from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem the Israeli Government was taking action embarrassing to the United Nations and ‘inopportune in relation to the existing tension in the Middle East’.

The Foreign Ministry claimed that Jerusalem had been the effective seat of Government for three and a half years during which time the idea of the territorial internationalization of the city had been generally abandoned, and it said that there had been complete accord between

Israel and the United States on this point. The Ministry reaffirmed its willingness to collaborate in plans for U.N. supervision of the holy places, but it described the U.N. resolution recommending the territorial internationalization of the holy city as 'inherently unimplementable and still-born', and said that Israel could not be expected to acquiesce indefinitely in the 'anomalous, unparalleled, and deleterious situation' caused by the amputation of the Foreign Ministry from the Government and Parliament.

Frontier Incident. An Air Force plane flying low near the Jordan frontier was fired at from the ground. The shots were believed to come from Tira, an Arab village, just inside Israeli territory.

31 July—Armed forces surrounded Tira and imposed a curfew on its inhabitants.

2 Aug.—Border incidents (*see Jordan*).

3 Aug.—**Development Budget.** Mr Levi Eshkol, Finance Minister, introduced into the Knesset the development budget which provided for a total of £145 m. (£30 m. more than in 1952-3). The allocations included: £47 m. for agricultural development (compared with £36 m. in the previous year); £11.5 m. for industry (compared with £13.3 m.); £7 m. for mining projects; £12.4 m. for communications; £13.4 m. for housing; £6.9 m. for electric power extension; and £8 m. for 'works to increase employment'.

Mr Eshkol said that the Government's deflationary policy was having a healthy effect and that internal buying of consumer goods had fallen off considerably. In the first six months of the year imports at £50 m. had decreased by £16.5 m. from the corresponding total in 1951-2, and exports had risen from £10.4 m. to £12.8 m. over the same period.

ITALY. 23 July—**Strikes.** More than 180,000 workers obeyed a call for a two-hour strike in Milan province issued by the Communist-controlled engineering workers' union and the printers and newsprint workers' union. The demonstration was in favour of increased living allowances and against mass dismissals.

27 July—Trade agreement with Ireland (*see Ireland*).

28 July—**Government's Defeat.** Signor De Gasperi tendered his Government's resignation following its defeat on the vote of confidence by 282 votes (Communists, Socialists, and Monarchists) to 263. There were 37 abstentions consisting of Liberals, Republicans, and Social Democrats.

2 Aug.—President Einaudi entrusted Signor Piccioni, deputy Prime Minister in the last Government, with the formation of a Government.

JAPAN. 25 July—**Cartels.** The Lower House passed a Bill to allow a revival of cartels in Japan subject to certain Government controls. (Under the allied occupation pre-war cartels were split up into smaller firms and an anti-monopoly law passed to prevent their re-establishment.)

JORDAN. 29 July et seq. Frontier incident (see *Israel*).

2 Aug.—Israel. Arab Legion H.Q. stated that on the preceding night an Israeli patrol had crossed the demarcation line and fired on the village of Beit Iksha, in the Jerusalem district. National Guards had returned the fire. No Jordan casualties were reported.

The Arab Legion also alleged that an Israeli patrol had fired across the demarcation line that morning at Katra, a border village in the Ramallah district. National Guards had returned the fire, and sporadic shooting had continued, resulting in the death of one Arab woman and the wounding of three men of the village.

At the request of Jordan the Mixed Armistice Commission met and decided to send investigators to both localities.

KENYA. 23 July—The Legislature adopted a motion that instruction in, and the general use of, English as a *lingua franca* be actively promoted.

Casualty Figures. The casualty figures for the week ending 23 July were announced as: seventy-three terrorists killed in operations, fourteen wounded, nineteen captured, and twenty-four arrested. Seventeen members of the security forces were killed and five wounded.

24 July—The Legislature began a debate on the emergency situation. Mr Blundell, leader of the European elected members, demanded that more troops and police be provided to hasten the end of the emergency and said that until this was done the situation would remain dangerous.

A Mau-Mau gang attacked a landing ground of the Police Reserve Air Wing and set fire to an aircraft.

26 July—An operation to clean up the South Nyeri district ended. In the course of the operation thirty to forty terrorists were killed and about the same number captured.

27 July—The Governor, Sir Evelyn Baring, announced the creation of a new province to be known as the Southern Province and consisting of the Kamba and Masai districts.

The Government empowered district commissioners to order the closing of trading centres for periods up to three months in areas where the inhabitants had helped the Mau-Mau.

It was learned that three African schools had been burnt down and a school teacher murdered in the Nyeri district during the week-end.

28 July—Security forces wiped out a gang of forty Kikuyu in the Fort Hall reserve.

Mau-Mau Rehabilitation. Mr Potter, Chief Secretary, told the Legislature that the system tried with success in Malaya was being used in Kenya to rehabilitate Mau-Mau detainees and criminals. It included communal work, development of self-respect and public spirit, education, vocational training, and the renewal of family ties.

Housing. The Government announced that plans were being formulated to enable the Government to undertake housing for Africans independently of the local authorities' schemes.

30 July—Mr Mathu, leader of the African unofficial members in the Legislature, introduced a motion that 'the Government should leave

Africans to form and operate constitutionally a colony-wide political organization'. The Chief Secretary moved an amendment on behalf of the Government that the present time was not opportune. He was supported by Mr Blundell, leader of the European elected members.

31 July—Chief James Keiru, a prominent loyalist, was killed with an African assistant district officer in an ambush in the Fort Hall district.

After a two-day debate it was decided that an African political organization should be formed as soon as the time was opportune and that in the meantime consultations should take place between the Government member for African Affairs and African leaders on what form the future organization should take.

2 Aug.—A Kikuyu Home Guard unit beat off a Mau-Mau attack against the camp of Chief Stephen. At least eight Mau-Mau were killed.

KOREA. 24 July—President Rhee issued a statement in which he specified alleged inconsistencies between what had been agreed between himself and the United States and what was being promised by U.N. delegates to the Communists. He declared: (1) that it was his positive understanding that no Indian or other foreign troops would be allowed to land in South Korea to guard prisoners of war; (2) that his agreement with Mr Robertson stated flatly that Korean prisoners who refused repatriation should be set free in South Korea and that Chinese prisoners who refused to go home should be sent to the destination of their choice; (3) he repeated that it was his understanding that the United States would join with the Republic of Korea in setting a time limit to the political conference and that if it proved unfruitful South Korea would be free to resume its own efforts to eject the Chinese Communists from Korea; and (4) that it was also his understanding that the 27,000 released North Korean prisoners should not be subject to arrest or re-imprisonment. He ended by saying that he did not wish to follow a unilateral policy but he was waiting for confirmation that these agreements and understandings had not been sacrificed to Communist demands.

Communist troops in regimental strength attacked allied positions near Panmunjom and made some initial gains which they later lost after an American counter-attack. Smaller Communist attacks were made on other sectors but were held.

27 July—Signing of Armistice. An armistice was signed at Panmunjom by Gen. Harrison on behalf of the United Nations and by Gen. Nam Il on behalf of the Communists. (It had been agreed that none of the commanders would sign at Panmunjom owing to a demand by the Communists, as the condition of their commanders' presence at Panmunjom, for restrictions which were unacceptable to the United Nations.) Later the armistice documents were countersigned by Gen. Clark at Munsan and by Marshal Kim Il-Sung and Gen. Peng Teh-Huai at Pyongyang. After the ceremony at Munsan Gen. Clark made a short speech in which he tempered thankfulness with recognition of the difficulties ahead in working out a lasting political settlement.

Armistice Terms. The main terms of the agreement were: (1) *Demilitarized Zone.* Hostilities would cease twelve hours after the sign-

Korea (*continued*)

ing, and, within seventy-two hours of the ending of hostilities, both sides would withdraw their troops two kilometres to form a demilitarized zone between the opposing forces; forces would be withdrawn from coastal islands and from the rear of the opposing side within five days. (2) *Re-equipment and Rotation of Troops*. The introduction into Korea of reinforcements of troops, equipment, and aircraft would stop, but replacement of worn out or destroyed equipment was allowed, also rotation of troops up to 35,000 a month; all new troops and equipment would enter through agreed ports. (3) *Armistice Commission*. A military armistice commission composed of five U.N. and five Communist officers would be responsible for the execution of the armistice and would settle violations by negotiation; it would have headquarters at Panmunjom and would be helped by ten joint observers' teams of four to six field officers. (4) *Neutral Supervisory Commission*. A neutral supervisory commission composed of four senior officers, one each from Sweden, Switzerland, Poland, and Czechoslovakia, would be helped by twenty inspection teams to be stationed, among other places, at ports of entry. (5) *Repatriation Commission*. All prisoners demanding repatriation must be sent home within sixty days and the rest be handed over to the repatriation commission (consisting of representatives of Sweden, Switzerland, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and India) with H.Q. in the demilitarized zone near Panmunjom. Armed forces to look after the prisoners would be supplied exclusively by India. No force or threat of force would be used against the prisoners. (6) *Arrangements for Prisoners*. Within ninety days arrangements would be made to allow representatives from their home countries to visit the prisoners and explain matters relating to their home-lands. Such representatives must not exceed seven for each thousand prisoners. Explanations must be conducted in the presence of a representative of each member nation of the supervisory commission and a representative of the detaining side. Explanations must terminate within ninety days of the transfer of prisoners to the custody of the neutral commission, and the disposal of remaining prisoners must be submitted to the political conference which would endeavour to settle their fate within thirty days. Within 120 days of the neutral commission assuming custody the commission would declare the release from prisoner-of-war to civilian status of any prisoners not repatriated and for whom no other disposition should have been agreed to by the political conference. Those prisoners choosing to go to neutral countries would be assisted by the neutral commission and the Indian Red Cross; the operation must be completed within thirty days and the commission then dissolved. (7) *Political Conference*. Within three months of the signing of the armistice a political conference of a higher level of both sides would be held to settle the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Korea and the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, etc.

Prisoners. The minutes of the secret sessions at Panmunjom were published revealing that the United Nations held about 5,000 Chinese and 69,000 North Koreans for direct repatriation, and that the Com-

munists would return a total of 12,736, including 922 men from the U.K.

Gen. Clark announced that he was authorized to begin the delivery of 10,000 tons of food to Korea. A United Nations announcement said that food valued at more than \$8 m. would be distributed by U.N. and South Korean Government agencies.

Statements by President Eisenhower and Mr Dulles (*see United States*).

Russian offer to help in reconstruction of North Korea (*see U.S.S.R.*).

28 July—Exchange of Prisoners. It was announced that the exchange of prisoners would start on 5 August and that the Communists would deliver 300 U.N., and the allies 2,700 Communist, prisoners daily.

President Rhee issued a statement adjuring Korean prisoners to stand firm in their determination not to return to the Communists.

In a message to the South Korean people President Rhee said he had received assurances that if the political conference broke down the sixteen United Nations would resume the fighting.

British Commonwealth Casualties. It was announced that since 15 August 1950 British Commonwealth casualties totalled 7,052 missing, killed, and wounded. The figure included 4,106 British troops and a number of attached Koreans.

Turkish casualties (*see Turkey*).

It was learnt that the North Koreans and Chinese had addressed a joint statement to the neutral supervisory commission, refusing to recognize the South Korean refusal to admit representatives of India, Poland, and Czechoslovakia to South Korea in the course of their duties.

29 July—At a meeting of the military armistice commission the Communists accused the United States of eight minor violations of the truce.

30 July—The United Nations and the Communists completed the withdrawal of their forces two kilometres north and south of the demarcation line.

31 July—At the meeting of the joint military armistice commission the Communists complained of two violations of their territory by allied aircraft. The commission agreed that each of the ten joint observer teams should initially be accompanied by six military police from each side.

2 Aug.—North Korea. Pyongyang Radio announced that Gen. Nam Il, the chief North Korean truce delegate, had been appointed Foreign Minister in place of Pak Hen-Yen.

Chiang Kai-shek's message to Korean prisoners (*see Formosa*).

3 Aug.—South Korea. The South Korean National Assembly passed unanimously a resolution demanding that only those nations which had taken part in the Korean war should be represented at the political conference and that it should be limited to three months. The resolution said the Assembly was opposed to any formula for Korean unification 'which would violate the sovereignty of the Republic of Korea'.

Korea (continued)

4 Aug.—Mr Dulles, the U.S. Secretary of State, arrived in Seoul for consultations with President Rhee.

5 Aug.—Exchange of Prisoners. The exchange of prisoners began at Panmunjom, the United Nations returning 2,756 Chinese and North Koreans and the Communists 400 U.N. prisoners. Many of the Chinese and North Korean prisoners displayed violence towards the U.N. teams. British and Commonwealth prisoners said that they had been subjected to political indoctrination during the first years of captivity but latterly there had been less propaganda.

U.S. Casualties. It was announced that U.S. casualties up to 31 July totalled 141,705 killed, wounded, or missing. The latest summary showed 22,628 killed in action, 105,480 wounded, and 13,597 missing.

LEBANON. 27 July—Mohammed el Abbud, a former Minister and a candidate in the elections, was shot and seriously injured in Beirut. A man alleged to have fired at him was arrested as well as Mr Abbud's political opponent, Suleiman Alalay.

LIBYA. 30 July—Britain. A treaty of friendship and alliance between Libya and the United Kingdom, together with related military and financial agreements, was signed in Benghazi. The military agreement provided that Britain would be accorded military facilities including permission to station British armed forces in Libya under mutually agreeable conditions. Under the financial agreement Britain undertook to provide financial aid for twenty years and to pay during each of the first five years £1 m. for economic development and £2,750,000 as assistance towards the Libyan budget. A reassessment would take place at the end of the five years.

The treaty and the two agreements were to be put into operation at once, in advance of ratification, in order to preserve continuity during the financial year.

3 Aug.—U.N. resolution on aid to Libya (*see United Nations, Economic and Social Council*).

MALAYA. 30 July—As a punishment for non-co-operation, a night curfew was imposed on the Selangor village of Broga, and inhabitants were forbidden to leave the village until they had cleared the secondary jungle from the perimeter fence and had carried out certain other orders.

Gen. Templer told the villagers of Kampong Melayu in South Trengganu, that he would give the community one acre for every bandit killed as a result of information coming from the village.

NETHERLANDS. 23 July—E.D.C. Treaty. The Second Chamber of the States-General (Lower House) passed the Bill to ratify the European Defence Community treaty by 75 votes to 11. The opposition consisted of the Communists, Political Christian Reform Party, the Catholic Nationalists, and Professor Gerbrandy.

27 July—Protest *re* German discrimination against foreign shipping on the Rhine (*see Germany*).

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 5 Aug.—Gen. Carpentier's appointment as C.-in-C. Allied Land Forces, central Europe (*see France*).

PAKISTAN. 25 July—**Indian-Pakistan Talks.** Talks opened in Karachi between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan—Mr Nehru and Mr Mohammed Ali.

26 July—British loan (*see Great Britain*).

27 July—**Indian-Pakistan Talks.** A communiqué issued after the talks said that they had been 'frank and cordial'. Subjects discussed besides Kashmir included canal waters; evacuee and trust property and shrines; problems between East Pakistan, West Punjab, and Assam; and enclaves in Cooch Bihar and East Pakistan. It had been agreed that the enclaves should be exchanged and terms and conditions considered further.

On Kashmir the communiqué said the talks were necessarily preliminary but they had helped to a clearer understanding of each other's point of view and had paved the way for further talks.

Mr Nehru told a press conference that he had been deeply moved by the friendliness of the people of Karachi and that it was deeply gratifying that the previous vicious atmosphere surrounding Indian-Pakistan relations had largely gone. He hoped there would be more frequent consultation between them so that co-operation would grow.

29 July—Mr Mohammed Ali told the press that the progress he had expected in regard to Kashmir had not been made in the talks, and he said that so long as a settlement was delayed the main objective of good will and amity between India and Pakistan could not in his view be achieved.

1 Aug.—Mr Mohammed Ali said in a broadcast that the generous American response to Pakistan's appeal for wheat had removed the fear of famine and distress and had had a 'marvellous effect on the rising trend of food prices'. Further receipts from the sale of American wheat would be used for development projects to increase food production. He announced that stringent measures would be taken against smuggling of food grains and consumer goods out of Pakistan and promised that the Government's campaign against corruption among Government officials would not be relaxed.

PERSIA. 25 July—**Disorders.** Reports reached Tehran that three people had been killed and thirty injured in clashes at Mashid-i-Sulaiman between pro-Government and Tudeh Party groups.

26 July—**Princess Ashraf.** A Court announcement said that Princess Ashraf had arrived in Tehran by air without the Shah's permission. She had been told by the Shah to leave the country immediately.

The police ordered the expulsion of the Rev. Sharp, a British mis-

Persia (*continued*)

sionary at Shiraz, on the ground of secret activities among Persian tribes.

27 July—Dr Musaddiq, Prime Minister, said in a broadcast that the Opposition deputies were turning the Majlis into a stronghold of anti-government subversion. He appealed to the people to vote for a dissolution in the forthcoming referendum.

28 July—Opposition deputies challenged Dr Musaddiq in a telegram to give the Opposition access to the radio in order to refute his recent accusations.

29 July—Mullah Kashani, former president of the Majlis, issued a statement condemning Dr Musaddiq's proposed referendum on the dissolution of the Majlis as unconstitutional and as a harmful precedent of subordinating the existence of parliament to the will of the Government. The statement said that Dr Musaddiq was responsible for the high cost of living and for the 50 per cent reduction in oil prices and that so far his policy had benefited foreigners.

1 Aug.—One person was killed and fifty injured in a clash between Government and Opposition supporters during a meeting at Mullah Kashani's house.

2 Aug.—Dr Moazemi resigned the presidency of the Majlis, stating that he was doing so because he had failed to persuade deputies to withdraw their resignations.

3 Aug.—**Referendum.** Voting took place in Tehran and adjoining districts on the question of dissolving the Majlis. In Tehran 101,396 persons voted for dissolution and only sixty-seven voted against.

SPAIN. 4 Aug.—**Gibraltar.** In an interview with *Ariba* on Gibraltar Day, Gen. Franco violently attacked Britain for retaining Gibraltar 'against all rights'.

TANGIER. 4 Aug.—It was announced that the Sultan of Morocco had signed the new statute for the international zone. The new arrangements superseded those of the 1923 conventions which had lapsed under the Spanish occupation of 1940 and had been replaced by a provisional regime in 1945. They came into force immediately.

TUNISIA. 3 July—The Bey handed to the Minister of the Interior, who was acting as Prime Minister in M. Baccouche's absence, a note accusing the Prime Minister of 'undermining his authority' and infringing his prerogatives. He complained that ministerial instructions in regard to the method of applying municipal reform had contained terms contradictory to decrees promulgated on 20 December (the decrees setting up elected municipal and district councils). (M. Baccouche had recently sent a message to caids telling them to delegate their powers, except police powers, to the vice-chairmen of the recently-elected district councils—the caids being *ex-officio* chairmen of the councils.)

TURKEY. 24 July—The text of the Turkish reply to the Russian Note

of 21 July was published. It stated that the visits of the British and U.S. fleets mentioned in the Soviet Note were notified to the Soviet Embassy in Ankara in accordance with the provisions of the Montreux Convention. The visits were in strict accord with the terms of the Convention and had no significance other than that of friendly relations between Turkey and the two countries to whom the fleets belonged.

Anti-Propaganda Bill. The Grand National Assembly approved by 252 votes to 46 a Government Bill designed to safeguard political stability. It provided for penalties of from one to five years' imprisonment for any person attempting to use religion to promote his political or personal interests, and laid down that organizations should give notice of the activities of any member so acting, failing which they would be held equally responsible. It also authorized the imposition of fines of from £10 to £50 for the use of slanderous or abusive language against opponents or for disturbances of the peace during political meetings.

28 July—Korea. The Defence Ministry published figures showing that 24,822 Turks had fought in Korea. Losses totalled 885, of which 617 were killed, 168 missing, and 100 died of illness.

Ministerial Change. Mr Kenan Yilmaz was appointed Defence Minister in place of Seyfi Kurtbek who had resigned.

31 July—West Germany. It was learned that an agreement had been signed in Ankara for the purchase by Germany of Turkish cereals from 1954-6.

2 Aug.—U.S.S.R. It was learned that a second Russian protest against the visits of the British and American fleets had been delivered.

UNITED NATIONS

Economic and Social Council

23 July—Social Security. The Council rejected a Polish draft, supported by Russia, calling for priority consideration of the conclusions reached in March by the Social Security Conference convened by the Communist-dominated W.F.T.U. Speakers pointed out that social security questions were being ably handled by the International Labour Organization.

31 July—Access to U.N. Headquarters. Mr Hammarskjöld, the U.N. Secretary-General, told the Council meeting in Geneva that his negotiations with the U.S. Government on free access for representatives of non-governmental organizations to U.N. headquarters in New York had led to a reaffirmation of rights and duties under the headquarters agreement and to an understanding on procedure in controversial cases.

2 Aug.—Technical Assistance Programme. The Council adopted a resolution calling for an early pledging conference, for speedy contribution to the 1954 programme of amounts not less than those pledged for 1953, and for a review of the financial procedures governing the operation of the programme. Russia and Poland abstained.

3 Aug.—Libya. After a debate during which the recently announced Anglo-Libyan treaty (*see under Libya*) was strongly criticized by the Indian and Soviet delegates, the Council adopted by 15 votes to 3

United Nations (*continued*)

(U.S.S.R., Poland, and India) a joint Egyptian-Turkish draft recommending U.N. financial and technical assistance to Libya.

The Soviet delegate described the Anglo-Libyan treaty as a means of British military and economic penetration which was in flagrant contradiction with the principles of the U.N. Charter, and he was scathing about the Egyptian initiative in moving a resolution which condoned such British military penetration.

Secretariat

3 Aug.—Mr Hammarskjöld, the Secretary-General, issued his annual report. It included a programme for strengthening the United Nations in which he urged: the extension of international law and a wider respect for such law; continued technical assistance and greater emphasis on economic and social development in under-developed countries; the extension of the United Nations as an instrument for conciliation; and the admission to membership of all nations qualifying as 'peace-loving'. After outlining the problems which had arisen as a result of the employment in the Secretariat of persons alleged by the U.S. Government to be subversive, Mr Hammarskjöld said: 'The international civil service should be left free from national pressures of any sort, and cannot itself be fully effective in its appointed functions except under these conditions.'

UNITED STATES. 23 July—Simpson Tariff Bill. The House of Representatives voted by 242 votes to 161 to reject the Simpson Bill to raise new trade barriers against imports.

Air Force Funds. The Senate rejected by 55 votes to 38 a proposal by a Democrat that the Air Force be allotted \$400 m. more than was allotted in President Eisenhower's budget and that the extra money be spent on jet bombers.

24 July—Israel. It was disclosed that the Government had refused an urgent request of the Israeli Government for a loan of \$75 m. to enable them to pay off numerous short-term obligations.

Korea. President Eisenhower requested Congressional leaders to set aside \$200 m. of defence funds as a first instalment for South Korean rehabilitation after an armistice.

25 July—President's message to Dr Adenauer (*see Germany*).

Foreign Aid. The Senate appropriations committee voted to restore nearly half of the cuts made in the foreign aid programme by the House and agreed on a mutual security Bill providing \$4,562,664,391 in new appropriations and \$2,187,815,979 in carry-over funds.

27 July—Korea. President Eisenhower in a broadcast to the nation expressed solemn gratitude for the armistice. He paid a tribute to the combatants of the sixteen United Nations and praised particularly the valour and patriotism of the troops of South Korea, inspired by their President. Emotion, he said, must be disciplined by resolution and vigilance during the coming negotiations to ensure that this armistice would in fact bring the free peoples one step nearer to peace.

A statement issued by the Secretary of State, Mr Dulles, on the armistice said that the Communists had yet to prove that they were acting in good faith. He underlined the historical significance of the U.N. stand in Korea as the implementation of the ideal of collective security and stressed the colossal casualties and suffering inflicted on the aggressors, declaring that the North Korean army was 'virtually extinct' and that total Communist casualties amounted to about 2 m. He also emphasized the far-reaching importance of the principle of political asylum for prisoners of war. After paying a tribute to the allied troops he spoke of the tasks that lay ahead—the rehabilitation of the country and its peaceful unification.

28 July—Korea. Mr Dulles told a press conference that the United States had no intention of buying Korean unification at the price of admitting Communist China to the United Nations, and he also said that if after ninety days the political conference proved a sham and showed no signs of being productive the U.S. delegates would walk out. He announced that he would leave for talks with President Rhee on 2 August. The main purpose of the talks would be to seek a concerted U.S.—South Korean position regarding the conduct of the political conference, to work out problems of South Korean rehabilitation, and to negotiate a security pact. In reply to a question, Mr Dulles said that the United States was prepared to consider using the veto in order to prevent the admission of Communist China to the United Nations.

29 July—Israel. Israeli reply to Mr Dulles's criticisms *re* removal of Foreign Ministry to Jerusalem (*see Israel*).

30 July—Foreign Aid. The Senate passed, by 69 votes to 10, a Bill authorizing the expenditure of \$6,745,318,202 in foreign aid.

Later, a conference between the Senate and the House agreed on a compromise total figure for foreign aid of \$6,652,422,390 (or \$4,530,457,999 exclusive of unexpended balances). The total for European military aid was \$3,171 m. The House approved the figure by 237 votes to 156.

National Debt. President Eisenhower asked Congress to raise the limit of the national debt by \$15,000 m. to a total of \$290,000 m.

Communism. Six leading Pennsylvania Communists were arrested on a charge of conspiring to overthrow the Government by violence.

Russian protest *re* aircraft incident (*see U.S.S.R.*).

31 July—U.S. protest *re* shooting down of U.S. aircraft (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Senator Taft's Death. Senator Robert A. Taft, Republican leader in the Senate, died aged sixty-three.

Immigration. Delegates of the Senate and the House agreed on an Immigration Bill providing for the admission of 214,000 aliens in the following three years (26,000 less than the figure requested by President Eisenhower).

Further Russian protest *re* aircraft incident (*see U.S.S.R.*).

1 Aug.—Federal Debt Limit. The Senate finance committee turned down for the current Congress session the President's request for a \$15,000 m. increase in the federal debt limit.

United States (continued)

Surplus Food. The Senate completed Congressional action on the President's request for authority to send surplus food to friendly countries to relieve famine or meet other emergencies. It approved a compromise Bill allowing the use of up to \$100 m. worth of surpluses until 15 March 1954.

Despatch of Strategic Goods to Communist Countries. President Eisenhower informed Congress that Britain, France, Norway, and west Germany would continue to receive military aid although they had sent strategic goods to Communist countries. He said that to end aid to these countries would be detrimental to U.S. security, and that, in considering the deliveries reported, he had the impression that either they had been made to honour commitments entered into before the U.S. embargo, or that the Governments concerned had acted upon the conviction that the margin of the free world's strength over that of the Soviet bloc was being increased by the resulting two-way trade.

Korea. Mr Dulles told a meeting of representatives of the fifteen countries with troops in Korea that President Eisenhower had approved a programme for using American troops in Korea to rebuild the country and to convert it into 'a strong pole of attraction for North Koreans' which could be an incentive to unification. He urged allied Governments to allow their troops to be used also in similar reconstruction programmes and called for joint contributions to the cost.

U.S. reply to Russian protest *re* aircraft incident (see *U.S.S.R.*).

2 Aug.—Mr Dulles left for Seoul.

3 Aug.—Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act. Final Congressional agreement was reached on the Bill to extend the Act by one year after the House had consented to strike out the protectionist provision to create a seventh member of the tariff commission. The Bill included a new provision to set up a commission to examine the whole field of foreign trade and to draw up recommendations for a new trade policy.

Customs Procedure. Congress reached a compromise agreement on the extension of the Customs Simplification Bill.

Federal Debt. The Administration withdrew its request to Congress for authorization of a higher limit of the federal debt.

Korea. Following a storm of protest in Congress regarding the proposal to use U.S. troops to help rebuild Korea (see 1 Aug.), the White House issued a statement denying that there was any intention of 'using American combat units as labour troops'. What was envisaged was that U.S. forces should give skilled technical help to the South Korean Government who would themselves provide the labour.

4 Aug.—Senate Majority Leader. Mr Knowland was elected Senate majority leader in succession to Senator Taft.

Foreign Aid. President Eisenhower, defending the foreign aid programme at the annual conference of State Governors at Seattle, said it was the 'cheapest way' towards achieving U.S. security. In south-east Asia, for instance, it was essential to prevent Indo-China falling into Communist hands, and the \$400 m. voted for that purpose represented 'security insurance' for America.

5 Aug.—Soviet proposal to western Powers for a five-Power conference (see *U.S.S.R.*).

Korea. U.S. casualties (see *Korea*).

U.S.S.R. 23 July—Washington Conference. *Pravda* published an article strongly critical of the recent three-Power Foreign Ministers' conference in Washington which it declared had not advanced any of the burning problems of international relations. It stated that the conference took place in an atmosphere of conflict of view between the United States and her allies and that the British and French Ministers had retreated under pressure from Mr Dulles from their original positions, both in agreeing to support Syngman Rhee over Korea, and in agreeing to shelve the idea of high-level four-Power talks as originally proposed by Churchill. It further alleged that the proposal to hold a four-Power conference of Foreign Ministers was not made from any love of peace but as a sop to popular demand for a settlement of international problems.

The article also objected to the attempt to impose on the proposed conference both the time and an agenda limited to discussion of Germany and Austria. It claimed that the western Powers' true aim was not the speedy unification of Germany and the signing of a peace treaty but rather the strengthening of 'Adenauer and his Fascist-revanchist clique' in west Germany and a revival of German militarism. If these aims were realized, it continued, they would result in the unleashing of the most bellicose militarist forces in central Europe and a hotbed of war similar to that of Hitler's Germany. The article concluded, however, by asserting that the conference testified to the 'burning necessity for settling urgent international problems by means of negotiations'.

26 July—Newspapers published a lengthy review of the history of the Soviet Communist Party in which emphasis was laid on the principle of collective leadership and reference made to the Soviet 'policy of peace'.

27 July—Korea. Mr Malenkov, Prime Minister, sent a telegram to Gen. Kim Il Sung, the North Korean Prime Minister and C.-in-C., congratulating him on the signing of the armistice and expressing his Government's readiness to help in the peaceful reconstruction of the country. A message from Mr Molotov also promised active support and help.

29 July—Austria. The Austrian Ambassador was handed a Note in which the Soviet Government stated that if Austria withdrew her declaration of support for the draft abbreviated treaty (put forward by the three western Powers in March 1952), it would open the way for resumed four-Power discussions on the Austrian treaty with the aim of reaching agreement on unsettled questions.

The Note listed a number of objections to the abbreviated treaty which included the complaint that Soviet rights were infringed upon, particularly in regard to ex-German assets in Austria. It also objected that the abbreviated treaty was a contravention of the Potsdam agreement and of the four-Power agreement on Austria reached in the United States in June 1949.

U.S.S.R. (continued)

Dismissals. The dismissal of the Byelorussian Premier, Mr Aleksei Kleshev, and his replacement by Mr Kiril Mazurov was announced. It was also announced that in Moldavia the Minister of Justice and the president of the Supreme Court had been dismissed.

30 July—Russian decision to take over costs of Soviet occupation in Austria (*see Austria*).

Shooting-down of U.S. Aircraft. The Soviet Government protested to the U.S. Government that a U.S. bomber had violated Soviet air territory on 29 July in the region of Vladivostok. The Note said that on being intercepted by two Soviet fighters the bomber had opened fire, obliging the fighters to return the fire whereupon the bomber had disappeared in the direction of the sea.

31 July—**U.S. Protest *re* Aircraft Incident.** The Government received a U.S. Note protesting about the shooting down by MIG fighters on 29 July of an American bomber while on a navigational training mission over the Sea of Japan. The Note requested news of the survivors picked up by Russian ships and stated that the facts of the incident were confirmed by the co-pilot who had been rescued by a U.S. ship forty miles off the coast of Siberia. The U.S. Ambassador, in a supplementary statement, said that Soviet ships were seen near the crash and that survivors were 'seen on life rafts'.

United States. The Government protested in a Note to the U.S. Government that a Soviet passenger aircraft had been shot down by four American fighters on 27 August. It alleged that the incident took place over Chinese territory, 110 miles from the Chinese-Korean border, and said that twenty-one lives and the plane had been lost. It described the action as 'a piratical attack' and said that the U.S. version that the incident occurred over North Korea was false.

1 Aug.—The United States stated in a reply to the above Note that it had been confirmed that the attack, by a single U.S. fighter, occurred over North Korea, eight miles from the Yalu River. It deplored the loss of life but attributed responsibility to the Soviet Union for sending the aircraft into the zone of hostilities.

Georgia. The appointment was announced of Mr A. N. Inauri as Minister for Internal Affairs in Georgia in succession to Mr Dekanazov who had been dismissed.

Trade agreement with Iceland (*see Iceland*).

2 Aug.—**Turkey.** Further Soviet protest *re* visits of foreign warships (*see Turkey*).

4 Aug.—Austrian memo (*see Austria*).

Diplomatic relations with Albania (*see Albania*).

5 Aug.—**Note to Western Powers: Five-Power Conference.** The Government replied in identical terms to the British, French, and U.S. Notes of 15 July. The reply complained that at the Washington conference, contrary to international custom, the three Powers had made a preliminary examination, without the U.S.S.R., of questions for discussion by the proposed four-Power conference and it said that such a procedure could have a negative influence on the whole progress

of the conference. The Note went on to say that with the conclusion of an armistice in Korea conditions were favourable for an overall lessening of international tension and that the main responsibility for maintaining peace and international security, as laid down in the U.N. Charter, fell to the five Powers—the U.S.A., Britain, France, U.S.S.R., and the Chinese People's Republic. It declared that to attach any special importance to events such as 'the Fascist adventure in Berlin of 17 June . . . an act of foreign hirelings' would be to distract attention from really significant facts in the international field, and it then stated that the Government would favour examination by a conference of Foreign Ministers of 'measures to help a general lessening of tension in international relations, including . . . reduction of armaments and the banning of foreign military bases'. It added that other problems need not be excluded and that, as not only European affairs demanded discussion but Asian affairs also were attracting international attention, the participation of the Chinese People's Republic was essential.

The Note agreed to a discussion of the German problem but said that the western proposal to confine such discussion to the question of all-German elections and a pre-election investigation by a 'so-called neutral commission' in accordance with the western Note of 23 September 1952 would not help towards German unification and the setting up of an all-German Government nor towards the conclusion of a peace treaty but would instead perpetuate the division of the country and delay the conclusion of a peace treaty.

After referring to the danger of measures to militarize western Germany, the Note proposed that the conference of Foreign Ministers should discuss: (1) 'with consideration of the above-mentioned facts measures to decrease tension in international relations'; and (2) 'the German problem, including the re-establishment of German unity and the conclusion of the peace treaty'.

Budget. Mr Zverev, Finance Minister, addressed a joint session of the two Houses of the Supreme Soviet—the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities—on the budget for 1953 which provided for a total revenue of 543,300 m. roubles giving a surplus of 12,800 m. roubles. The revenue included 240,400 m. roubles in turnover tax, 111,500 m. roubles from the State industries, and 46,100 m. roubles from direct taxation. The budget allocated 192,500 m. roubles for national economy (against 180,400 m. roubles in 1952), 129,800 m. roubles for social culture (against 124,800 m. roubles in 1952), and 110,200 m. roubles (£9,839 m. at the official exchange rate) for defence which represented 20·8 per cent of the total budget and was a slight decrease on the 1952 figure.

Mr Zverev proposed a new law to lower by about 43 per cent the taxes received from collective farmers and others engaged in agriculture and to provide for a further tax cut in subsequent years, the purpose of the law being to compensate farmers for retail price cuts in recent years. The Government had also decided to cancel all agricultural tax arrears except in the case of members of collective farms who had not worked the prescribed number of days. Such persons

U.S.S.R. (continued)

would be liable to tax arrears plus 50 per cent. Government expenditure on agriculture would amount to 39,900 m. roubles. Mr Zverev also announced various tax reliefs for families of people serving in the armed forces and for disabled service men and their families. He said Government expenditure would be cut by 6,500 m. roubles, and he added that several ministries had not fulfilled plans for saving raw materials and fuel and many had failed to reach their economy targets.

United States. A further U.S. Note was delivered concerning the U.S. bomber shot down on 27 July. It said that the Soviet allegation that the bomber had flown over Soviet territory had been proved false by radar just prior to the attack, and it protested in the strongest terms against the attack and demanded appropriate compensation for the loss of the plane and for the lives of any of the crew who might have been killed.

Trade agreement with Argentina (*see Argentina*).

WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH. 30 July.—The third (Communist-sponsored) congress of the Federation ended in Bucharest after having adopted unanimously a resolution calling upon youth everywhere to support endeavours for a relaxation of international tension.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS. 4 Aug.—The third session of the Congress opened in Geneva and was addressed by Dr Nahum Goldman, acting Chairman, who appealed for unity and for support for Israel.

YUGOSLAVIA. 1 Aug.—Hungarian protest *re* frontier incident (*see Hungary*).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| Aug. | 17 | U.N. General Assembly. |
| | 18 | Congress of the Liberal International, Luxembourg. |
| Sept. | 6 | Federal German General Election. |
| | 17 | Meeting of G.A.T.T. Contracting parties, Geneva. |
| | 26 | Italo-Arab Congress on Trade and Cultural Relations, Bari, Italy. |
| | 28 | Labour Party Annual Conference, Margate. |
| Oct. | 8 | Conservative Party Annual Conference, Margate. |
| | 12 | Norwegian General Election. |